Detailed Methodology

• The survey was conducted by IRI’s Center for Insights in Survey Research and Creative Research and Development under the supervision of Rob Varsalone, PRC and Dr. Mark Lyon of Redstone Scientific between April 10 to May 21, 2018.

• Data was collected using a multi-stage stratified probability sample through in-person, in-home interviews. The sample was stratified by division, by district, and by urban and rural locations.

• The sample consists of 5,000 respondents aged 18 and older, and is representative of voting-age adults nationally.

• The sample was distributed into 500 primary sampling units (PSU) from all 64 districts of all eight divisions. PSUs were defined as mouza in rural areas and mahalla in urban areas.

• The probability-proportional-to-size method was used to select localities. After identifying a centrally-located starting point, Systematic Random Sampling was used to select the appropriate household. Within each household, the Kish Grid was used to select respondents 18 years and older. A gender quota was implemented at the PSU level in order to ensure representativeness.

• Interview teams were comprised of both men and women.

• The margin of error does not exceed plus or minus 1.4 percent at the mid-range with a confidence level of 95 percent. This does not take into account the design effect. The response rate was 52 percent.

• Adjustments to question wording and order between the April 2017 and May 2018 surveys might contribute to some of the fluctuations seen in certain questions.

• The information in this report has been compiled in accordance with international standards for market and social research methodologies. Figures in charts and tables may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding.
Do you believe things in Bangladesh are heading in the right or wrong direction?

- Right direction
- Wrong direction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Right</th>
<th>Wrong</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nov 2013</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 2014</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 2014</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun 2015</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 2015</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 2016</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 2017</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2018</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NET:
- Nov 2013: -29%
- Jan 2014: -24%
- Sep 2014: +17%
- Jun 2015: +26%
- Nov 2015: +32%
- Feb 2016: +50%
- Apr 2017: +57%
- May 2018: +40%
Why do you say right direction?
(Open-ended; respondents who said right direction: n=3,079)

- Improved economy: 46%
- Transportation infrastructure: 11%
- Educational improvements: 9%
- Overall development: 8%
- Digital Bangladesh*: 6%
- Law and order: 6%
- Declining terrorism: 3%
- Electricity production: 3%
- Improved telecommunications: 2%
- Improved healthcare: 2%
- Other: 2%
- Don't know/Refused to answer: 2%

*A government initiative part of the Vision 2021 to increase the use of computers and open source software
Why do you say wrong direction?
(Open-ended; respondents who said wrong direction: n=1,114)

- Bad economy: 21%
- One-sided government: 12%
- Decline in law and order: 10%
- Lack of democracy: 9%
- Increasing corruption: 8%
- Poor transportation system: 7%
- No freedom of expression: 5%
- Poor security: 4%
- Political instability: 4%
- Electricity crisis: 4%
- Overcrowding: 2%
- Lack of caretaker gov't: 1%
- Poor telecommunications: 1%
- Opposition boycott: 1%
- Poor education system: 1%
- Gas shortage: 1%
- Hartals: 1%
- Other: 5%
- Don't know/Refused to answer: 2%

**Hartal: strike action; organized closing down of shops and offices as a form of political protest**
Overall, how would you rate the current economic situation in Bangladesh?

- **May 2018:**
  - Very good: 15%
  - Somewhat good: 54%
  - Somewhat bad: 14%
  - Very bad: 6%
  - Don't know/Refused to answer: 12%

- **Apr 2017:**
  - Very good: 41%
  - Somewhat good: 42%
  - Somewhat bad: 8%
  - Very bad: 5%
  - Don't know/Refused to answer: 4%

- **Feb 2016:**
  - Very good: 35%
  - Somewhat good: 48%
  - Somewhat bad: 10%
  - Very bad: 5%
  - Don't know/Refused to answer: 2%

- **Nov 2015:**
  - Very good: 30%
  - Somewhat good: 49%
  - Somewhat bad: 12%
  - Very bad: 7%
  - Don't know/Refused to answer: 2%

- **Jun 2015:**
  - Very good: 28%
  - Somewhat good: 44%
  - Somewhat bad: 14%
  - Very bad: 12%
  - Don't know/Refused to answer: 2%

- **Sep 2014:**
  - Very good: 22%
  - Somewhat good: 47%
  - Somewhat bad: 19%
  - Very bad: 11%
  - Don't know/Refused to answer: 1%
Overall, how would you rate the current security situation in Bangladesh?
Overall, how would you rate the current level of political stability in Bangladesh?

**Note: Scale for previous surveys was “very stable”, “somewhat stable”, “somewhat unstable”, and “very unstable”.

**
In the year ahead do you think that the security situation will improve, worsen or stay the same?

**Apr 2017**
- Improve: 55%
- Stay the same: 21%
- Worsen: 9%
- Don’t know/Refused to answer: 6%

**May 2018**
- Improve: 45%
- Stay the same: 35%
- Worsen: 9%
- Don’t know/Refused to answer: 12%
In the year ahead do you think the level of political stability in Bangladesh will improve, worsen or stay the same?

- **May 2018**: 33% Improve, 14% Stay the same, 12% Worsen, 40% Don't know/Refused to answer
- **Apr 2017**: 51% Improve, 7% Stay the same, 12% Worsen, 29% Don't know/Refused to answer
- **Feb 2016**: 65% Improve, 7% Stay the same, 16% Worsen, 13% Don't know/Refused to answer
- **Nov 2015**: 50% Improve, 17% Stay the same, 13% Worsen, 20% Don't know/Refused to answer
- **Jun 2015**: 48% Improve, 15% Stay the same, 20% Worsen, 17% Don't know/Refused to answer
Thinking about the personal economic situation of you and your family, in the past year has it improved, worsened or stayed the same?

- **Sep 2014**: 49% Improved, 21% Stayed the same, 29% Worsened, 0% Don't know/Refused to answer
- **Jun 2015**: 61% Improved, 19% Stayed the same, 19% Worsened, 1% Don't know/Refused to answer
- **Nov 2015**: 65% Improved, 18% Stayed the same, 17% Worsened, 1% Don't know/Refused to answer
- **Feb 2016**: 69% Improved, 14% Stayed the same, 16% Worsened, 1% Don't know/Refused to answer
- **Apr 2017**: 63% Improved, 16% Stayed the same, 18% Worsened, 3% Don't know/Refused to answer
- **May 2018**: 47% Improved, 32% Stayed the same, 17% Worsened, 4% Don't know/Refused to answer
Thinking some more about the personal economic situation of you and your family, in the coming year do you think it will improve, worsen or stay the same?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Improve</th>
<th>Stay the same</th>
<th>Worsen</th>
<th>Don't know/Refused to answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sep 2014</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun 2015</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 2015</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 2016</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 2017</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2018</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Priority Issues
What is the single most important problem in Bangladesh? (Open-ended)

- Corruption: 21%
- Economy: 16%
- Security: 10%
- Drugs: 10%
- Political Instability: 6%
- Education: 6%
- Transportation Infrastructure: 3%
- Power: 3%
- Election Reform: 2%
- Human Rights: 2%
- Disaster Relief: 2%
- Water: 2%
- Healthcare: 1%
- Religious Extremism: 1%
- Other: 2%
- Don’t know/Refused to answer: 13%
On a scale of one to five, to what extent do you think that corruption is a problem in Bangladesh, with one being not a problem at all and five being the most serious problem?

Mean = 4.5
How would rate the current state of Bangladesh’s democracy, would you say it is good or bad? And would you say that it is very or somewhat good/bad?

- Very good: 15%
- Somewhat good: 36%
- Somewhat bad: 14%
- Very bad: 23%
- Don't know/Refused to answer: 12%
On a scale from one to five, to what extent do you think that people in Bangladesh feel free to publicly express their political opinions, with one being they do not feel free to express their opinions at all, and five being they feel completely free to express their opinions?

Mean = 2.66

- Not at all: 21%
- 1: 18%
- 2: 30%
- 3: 17%
- 4: 8%
- Don't know/Refused to answer: 6%
Do you think that the upcoming elections will be free and fair?

- Yes, for the most part: 32%
- No, not at all: 13%
- Don't know/Refused to answer: 55%

Legend:
- Dark blue: Yes, for the most part
- Purple: No, not at all
- Gray: Don't know/Refused to answer
Thinking now about her recent trial, do you support or oppose the court’s conviction and jailing of Khaleda Zia on corruption charges?

- Strongly support: 12%
- Somewhat support: 12%
- Somewhat oppose: 10%
- Strongly oppose: 13%
- Don’t know/Refused to answer: 53%
If Khaleda Zia is unable to participate in the national elections, would you support or oppose Bangladesh Nationalist Party boycotting the elections? And would you strongly or somewhat support/oppose?

- Strongly support: 11%
- Somewhat support: 11%
- Somewhat oppose: 10%
- Strongly oppose: 10%
- Don't know/Refused to answer: 58%
Approval Ratings
Do you approve or disapprove of the job being done by the following? (Respondents who approve)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>May 2018</th>
<th>Apr 2017</th>
<th>Feb 2016</th>
<th>Nov 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Army</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prime Minister</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upazila Parishad</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parliament*</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Court</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Election Commission</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opposition</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td></td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Not asked in previous surveys.
On each of these issues, how would you rate the national government? (Percentages shown are total responding “strongly approve” and “somewhat approve”)

- Improving education: May 2018 – 71%, Apr 2017 – 90%, Feb 2016 – 88%
- Delivering quality healthcare: May 2018 – 67%, Apr 2017 – 78%, Feb 2016 – 83%
- Availability of drinking water: May 2018 – 64%, Apr 2017 – 70%, Feb 2016 – 79%
- Electricity availability: May 2018 – 59%, Apr 2017 – 70%, Feb 2016 – 78%
- Development of roads, highways, bridges: May 2018 – 61%, Apr 2017 – 70%, Feb 2016 – 77%
- Fighting violent extremism*: May 2018 – 59%, Apr 2017 – 76%
- Keeping the peace: May 2018 – 50%, Apr 2017 – 72%, Feb 2016 – 72%
- Strengthening democracy: May 2018 – 44%, Apr 2017 – 49%, Feb 2016 – 62%
- Fighting corruption: May 2018 – 35%, Apr 2017 – 60%, Feb 2016 – 58%
- Controlling inflation: May 2018 – 33%, Apr 2017 – 47%, Feb 2016 – 62%
- Reducing unemployment: May 2018 – 24%, Apr 2017 – 51%, Feb 2016 – 61%

*This issue was not asked in previous surveys.
Political Parties
How important is it to you that the Awami League-led government seek input from other political parties and include them in the decision-making process?

- Very important: 40%
- Somewhat important: 21%
- Not important at all: 9%
- Don't know/Refused to answer: 30%
Would you say you agree or disagree with the statement that the BNP and the Awami League are capable of putting aside their differences and working together to solve the problems facing Bangladesh?
How likely, if at all, are you to vote in the next national parliamentary elections?

![Pie chart for April 2017](chart1)

- Very likely: 76%
- Somewhat likely: 12%
- Somewhat unlikely: 3%
- Very unlikely: 4%
- Don't know/Refused to answer: 5%

![Pie chart for May 2018](chart2)

- Very likely: 58%
- Somewhat likely: 23%
- Somewhat unlikely: 3%
- Very unlikely: 4%
- Don't know/Refused to answer: 12%
## Demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monthly Household Income</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 10,000 <em>taka</em></td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10,001-25,000 <em>taka</em></td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25,001-50,000 <em>taka</em></td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50,000+ <em>taka</em></td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dhaka</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chittagong</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rajshahi</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khulna</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rangpur</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sylhet</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barisal</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cannot read or write</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can only write/read own name</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literate/No formal schooling</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class 1-4</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class 5-9</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school certificate/Dakhil</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higher Secondary Certificate</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s Degree</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Degree</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18-30</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31-40</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41-50</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51-60</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61+</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Religion</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunni Muslim</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shiite Muslim</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hindu</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buddhist</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Married</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*At the time of survey fieldwork, 80 Bangladeshi *taka* was equivalent to $1 USD.*